

during a particularly busy time, as we geared up for the first impeachment of President Trump and played an instrumental role in our communication work surrounding the impeachment, including helping book TV interviews, as well as the second impeachment a year later.

Kayla played an integral role in communicating to the public the work the Committee was doing for the American people. In addition to making sure every statement went out to the press as it was delivered, Kayla worked with other committees and other member offices to coordinate press releases, press conferences, and communication strategies; coordinated briefings with reporters ahead of major breaking news events; and worked with national and international reporters on a range of issues before the committee. She also worked with our chief counsels to shape and perfect their messaging prior to the start of numerous hearings and worked on communication campaigns relating to a range of judiciary issues, including but not limited to our work on voting rights, prohibiting forced arbitration for sexual harassment claims, and the reauthorization of the Violence Against Women Act. Kayla helped roll out the Staff Report on our Antitrust Subcommittee's Investigation of Competition in Digital Markets, served as our primary point of contact for all press inquiries and communication efforts for several months when we transitioned between Communication Directors, and served as our primary digital staffer when we transitioned between Digital Directors.

For more than four years, I have been fortunate to count Kayla among my staff. I, and the American people, have greatly benefited from her work ethic, intellect, and strategic thinking. Kayla is calm in even the most stressful situations, always willing to lend a hand whenever one is needed, and brings a positive energy and a good spirit to everything she does. She has played a critical role in both serving New York's 10th Congressional District and informing the American people of the work of my office and the Committee on the Judiciary. We will greatly miss Kayla as she embarks on the next chapter of her career on Capitol Hill.

We thank Kayla for her service to the Committee and wish her the best of luck with this new chapter.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN ROSS A. REYNOLDS

**HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 28, 2022*

Mr. McGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to honor the late Captain Ross A. Reynolds. A United States Marine and constituent of mine from Leominster, Massachusetts, Captain Reynolds, along with three other Marines, tragically lost his life in a NATO training exercise near Bodoø, Norway on March 18, 2022. At only 27 years old, Captain Reynolds had accomplished so much and yet had so much life ahead—for that I'm heartbroken.

Captain Reynolds joined the Marine Corps in 2017 and served as an MV-22 Osprey pilot until the time of his death. During his service, he was awarded the National Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Service

Medal, the Sea Service Deployment Ribbon, and countless other certificates and letters of appreciation. These accolades exemplify Captain Reynolds' commitment to the ideals of this nation and to serving a cause greater than himself.

Often described as an exceptional leader and an even better friend, Captain Reynolds was known for his smile and the joy he brought into any room. From a young age, he exhibited pride for his country and a desire to be of service to others. As an Eagle Scout, Captain Reynolds often volunteered to hold up the American flag at community events and his good spirit was infectious as a camp counselor at Camp Wanocksett in Dublin, New Hampshire. His presence was a light in the lives of everyone who had the privilege of knowing him.

Madam Speaker, Captain Reynolds lived a life fuller than the one I can paint with these words. His service to his community, his country, and the people he loved cannot be understated. Captain Reynolds was compassionate, caring, and showed up every day as good Marine, son, husband. He was the best version of the kind of people and citizens we all should aspire to be—put simply, Captain Reynolds was a good man. My wife Lisa and I extend our deepest condolences to his family, and we will keep them in our prayers.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and the entire Second Congressional District of Massachusetts, I extend my deepest regrets to everyone who has been impacted by this terrible tragedy. May Captain Reynolds' loved ones find peace in knowing that so many people across the Nation join them in remembering his life and service during this difficult time.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT ADVERTISING EQUITY ACCOUNTABILITY ACT

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 28, 2022*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Federal Government Advertising Equity Accountability Act, which would require all federal agencies to include in their annual budget requests to Congress the amount they spend on advertising contracts with small disadvantaged businesses (SDBs) and businesses owned by minorities and women. Federal agencies would be required to provide prior and projected total expenditures for such contracts. The Committee on Appropriations, at my and Representative BARBARA LEE's request, has been requiring such information from many agencies for the last several years, but my bill would codify this requirement and apply it to all federal agencies.

In 2007, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) examined spending on advertising contracts with minority-owned businesses by five agencies—the Department of Defense, the Department of the Treasury, the Department of Health and Human Services, the Department of the Interior and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration—and found that only five percent of the \$4.3 billion available for advertising contracts went to minority businesses. In light of these concerning find-

ings, several Members of Congress and I sent a letter to GAO in April 2016 requesting updated information on the amount of federal advertising dollars spent with SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women. That GAO report, released in July 2018, showed that in fiscal year 2017, only 16 percent of the federal government's advertising contract obligations went to SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women.

The federal government is the largest advertiser in the United States, and it has an obligation to ensure equitable access to its contracts for SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women. The GAO's findings demonstrate that there is still much progress to be made.

The regular collection of information on federal advertising contracts with SDBs and businesses owned by women and minorities, along with the provision of this information to legislators and stakeholders, is essential to bridging the gap between what current statistics show and a more inclusive advertising landscape. This bill would achieve these goals while also promoting transparency and encouraging federal agencies to strive to reach minorities, who often receive the news from smaller media outlets that serve communities of color. The requirement that agencies submit prior and projected information regarding the amount of advertising dollars spent with SDBs and businesses owned by minorities and women would allow federal agencies to evaluate their progress over time. The regular collection of this information would also demonstrate that the promotion of equity in advertising, and in all areas of government, should be a continuous effort that is important to the mission of every agency.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

#### COMMEMORATING THE 11-YEAR ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONFLICT IN SYRIA

**HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 28, 2022*

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, last week marked the 11-year anniversary of the beginning of the conflict in Syria. Now over a decade old, the crisis in Syria grinds on. Despite claims to the contrary, Bashar al-Assad has not won or extinguished the revolution. But he continues to weaponize and steal UN humanitarian assistance, something the United States must work to stop. Thousands remain in detention, including American citizens Majd Kamalmaj and Austin Tice, subject to brutal torture. The Caesar photos provided heart wrenching and damning proof of Bashar's crimes in regime jails. And more, Assad is flooding his country and the surrounding region with the lethal drug, Captagon, turning Syria into a narco-state. It is why I introduced legislation with my colleague to require the U.S. to prepare an inter-agency strategy to combat Captagon.

Congress cannot remain silent on the atrocities of the Assad regime. To that end, we must remain dedicated to preventing the rehabilitation of the regime. Bashar al-Assad and his henchmen must be held accountable for the genocide they are carrying out on the Syrian people. It is why I am proud to serve as